

T. W. Garrison.

Portland, Jan 24: '61.

Dear friend

16 It is with extreme regret that I inform you that I ~~am~~ shall not be present at the Annual Meeting of the Mass. A. S. Society. I have delayed answering your invitation till the last minute, thinking it possible & not unlikely that I might answer it in person. But there is sickness here which I must not leave. I must not go.

One consolation lies in the



thought that I could do it  
for our noble cause beyond  
giving its brave advocates the  
sympathy of my presence. In  
the passionate excitement of  
the hour I doubt whether I  
could command the wise, calm,  
helpful words which are  
needed. Sometimes it seems  
to me as if the end of the  
great Iniquity were at hand  
& from the quakings, convulsions,  
& "beginning of sorrows" which  
precede it came the divine  
voice saying Be still & know  
that I am God. Verily God  
is speaking mighty words in



to the ear of the nation. Would  
and that in this her time she could  
hear & follow them. That  
Massachusetts will be faith-  
ful to Liberty - that she will  
not "make her record clean"  
by erasing from it that Law  
which, with ~~some feebler~~  
~~power~~ ~~to~~ however feebly & im-  
perfectly, expresses the honest  
purpose of her people. I hope,  
I wish I could say I trust.  
That in Boston will be found  
courage & virtue enough to  
fittingly rebuke the spirit  
which would crush Free  
Speech & extinguish the Lon



of Liberty, I also hope.

May you have a great  
& powerful meeting.

Yours for Liberty

Fred<sup>d</sup> Frothingham

---